

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bradley Lytle Reg. No. 40,073 on July 17th, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims

2. In claim 1, line 20, after "exceeds", "a" has been changed to --the--.
3. In claim 8, line 7, after "reproduction", --of-- has been inserted.
4. In claim 22, line 4, after "coefficient",

--, wherein N, B and R are all greater than zero-- has been inserted.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-19, 21 and 22 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to claim 1, the prior art of record taken alone and/or in combination with each other fails to teach and/or fairly suggest the limitation of "control means for changing the first threshold value and a second threshold value for the data size of the compressed data stored in the memory means based on the compression rate detected by the detecting means," in combination with other recited limitations.

Referring to claim 8, the prior art of record taken alone and/or in combination with each other fails to teach and/or fairly suggest the limitation of "controlling to change the first threshold value and a second threshold value for the data size of the compressed data stored in the memory means based on the compression rate detected in the detecting," in combination with other recited limitations.

Referring to claim 15, the prior art of record taken alone and/or in combination with each other fails to teach and/or fairly suggest the limitation of "changing the first threshold value and a second threshold value for the data size of the compressed data stored in the memory means based on the compression rate detected in the detecting," in combination with other recited limitations.

Referring to claim 16, the prior art of record taken alone and/or in combination with each other fails to teach and/or fairly suggest the limitation of "a controller configured to change the first threshold value and a second threshold value for the data size of the compressed data stored in the memory based on the compression rate detected by the detector," in combination with other recited limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TUSHAR S.

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SHAH whose telephone number is (571)270-1970. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Henry Tsai can be reached on 571-272-4176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. S. S./

Examiner, Art Unit 2184

/Henry W.H. Tsai/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2184